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Page Page Page

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Former Deb Chooses Washington Career

By BEVERLEY BRICKEN

Press Register Staff Reporter
For a young girl who started out to become a singer, vivacious Addice Du Valle of Mobile has gone far afield.

But the direction she has taken would be the answer to many an ambitious girl's prayers—private secretary to an important Washington woman.

Addice, now home on vacation, has been secretary to Mrs. Eleanor Lansing Dulles, special assistant in the State Department and a sister of the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. (After the death of her husband, David Blondheim she resumed the name of Dulles.)

Mrs. Dulles presently is engaged in an intensive study of underdeveloped countries as part of her duties with the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the State Department, and working with her keeps Addice on her toes.

Mrs. Dulles spent the first four months of this year in the Far East and now is planning a trip to Africa in October. It is up to me not only to make arrangements, plan schedules, contact embassies and the such, but also have to keep Mrs. Dulles apprized of what's going on in Mobile while she is away," the 24-year-old secretary explained.

STIMULATING JOB

Stimulating, informative and at times exciting she has found her work.

"Just being connected with the Dulles family is a marvelous experience in itself," she asserted, "they are a remarkable group and have been grand to me."

Another brother of Mrs. Dulles, Allen Dulles, presently is head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and a sister in New York is the first woman to have been ordained a Presbyterian minister.



Press Register Photo By Jack Gibson

Pretty Addice DuValle, Mobile debutante of 1958, enjoys Washington life as secretary to Mrs. Eleanor Lansing Dulles, special assistant in the State Department, and sister of the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

Although her duties don't take her into daily contact with national figures as much as many think, "I still feel as though I am in on important things, when I take information to Secretary of State Christian Herter's office from Mrs. Dulles and obtain special information that she seeks," Addice added.

"For an instance, when she is abroad, Mrs. Dulles may need some specific information about a certain country and delegates me to get it for her. I immediately contact the parties in

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Washington who can furnish the necessary material and have them draft an answer to her request," she explained.
How did a would-be singer end up on the Washington scene?

HEART ON EUROPE

It began, Addice explained, when she set her heart on going to Europe. After her graduation from the University of Alabama in 1957 with a major in music, and after making her debut in Mobile in 1958 and working for a time at the Merchant's National Bank, she decided the best way to get to the continent was in a government position.

"I spoke to Cong. Frank Boykin, wrote to the State Department as he advised, and obtained a position there but the first few months were disappointing. During a routine interview with personnel, I learned that Mrs. Dulles needed a secretary and obtained an interview with her."

Mrs. Dulles immediately asked, "What do you know about economics?" Addice said. "There wasn't anything to do but be honest so I told her that I was a singer and the only thing I knew about economics was how to spell the word. With that she hired me and we have had a wonderful relationship ever since. I've even forgotten about Europe," she continued.

Addice, who will return Monday to her Washington duties, is the daughter of Mrs. Smith Du Valle, 123 Williams Ct., and of Frank Ladd Du Valle, 153 Levert St.